

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-05

CEA-01 L-03 /086 W

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R 092115Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7209

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, JM

SUBJECT: CONSORTIUM APPROACH TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

1. IN LUNCH INVOLVING FRANK FRANCIS, PERMANENT SECRETARY IN MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND CHARGE, FRANCIS RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE CONSORTIUM APPROACH TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN.

2. HE SAID THAT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER HAD RAISED THE SUBJECT WITH SECRETARY VANCE BECAUSE OF THE FORMER'S KNOWLEDGE OF U.S. INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT AS WELL AS AWARENESS THAT VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT HAD PROPOSED A CONSORTIUM APPROACH IN HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER SOME WEEKS AGO. FRANCIS ALSO NOTED THAT TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WAS CIRCULATING ITS PROPOSAL ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. FRANCIS SAID THAT THE GOJ WAS CERTAINLY NOT

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OPPOSED TO THE IDEA AND WAS IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE WILLIAMS' PROPOSAL DESPITE THE FACT THAT IT BELIEVED SOME ELEMENTS OF THE T&T APPROACH QUOTE MADE NO SENSE END QUOTE. SPECIFICALLY, THE NOTION THAT SUCH A CONSORTIUM COULD BE VIABLE OR REASONABLE WITHOUT VENEZUELA WAS A QUOTE PARANOIC END QUOTE IDEA.

4. FRANCIS AND CHARGE DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR CAREFUL PREPARATION FOR A FIRST MEETING OF CONSORTIUM PARTICIPANTS. IT WAS AGREED THAT AMONG SEVERAL POSSIBLE APPROACHES, THE FOLLOWING HAD SOME ADVANTAGES:

A. A LIST OF ITEMS COULD BE IDENTIFIED WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE A PRELIMINARY AGENDA AND UPON WHICH PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE PREPARED TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS AND/OR DISCUSS.

B. PRIOR TO MEETING OF ALL PARTICIPANTS, DONORS AND BENEFICIARIES COULD MEET SEPARATELY TO DISCUSS IDENTIFIED ITEMS. PURPOSE WOULD BE TO COME UP WITH SOLID ALTERNATIVES TO WHICH MORE THAN CASUAL THOUGHT HAD BEEN GIVEN, RATHER THAN TO DEVELOP A "WE-THEY" APPROACH.

C. SOME OF THE ITEMS MIGHT INCLUDE: (1) IDENTIFICATION OF REGIONAL PROBLEMS WHICH MANY OF THE COUNTRIES SHARE (COMMON SERVICES, TRAINING, ETC.); (2) DESCRIPTION OF THE KINDS OF RESOURCES WHICH COULD APPROPRIATELY BE ADDRESSED TO REGIONAL PROBLEMS; (3) ORGANIZATION, MANPOWER, MECHANICS, PROCEDURES, SITE, ETC. OF A CONSORTIUM APPARATUS.

5. THE IMF, WORLD BANK, IDB AND CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK WERE DISCUSSED AS POSSIBLE CONSORTIUM MANAGERS. IT WAS AGREED THAT SOME SORT OF INSTITUTIONAL SHARING AND/OR COOPERATION ON THE MANAGEMENT SIDE MADE SENSE AND THE CDB CERTAINLY OUGHT TO PARTICIPATE, EVEN IF NOT IN A LEADERSHIP ROLE.

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IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE FOREGOING DISCUSSION WAS VERY PRELIMINARY AND THAT WE ALL NEEDED TO DO FURTHER THINKING AND TO CONTINUE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Remarks:
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